

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF MINNESOTA

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,)
)
Plaintiff,)
)
v.)
)
CHRISTOPHER KEITH DESTASIO,)
)
Defendant.)

INFORMATION

10CR213 PJS

(18 U.S.C. § 1343)

THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY CHARGES THAT:

Count 1

(18 U.S.C. § 1343: WIRE FRAUD)

1. At all times relevant to this Information, defendant Christopher Keith Destasio was an individual resident of the State of Minnesota and was an account executive with Sprint Nextel charged with the responsibility to develop and maintain sales of cellular phones to some of its larger customers.

2. Beginning in approximately October of 2007 and continuing through approximately October of 2009, defendant Christopher Keith Destasio devised and executed by means of interstate wire transfers a scheme to defraud Sprint Nextel by fraudulently acquiring Sprint Nextel cellular phones and then selling them to numerous unwitting third parties on EBAY.

3. It was part of the scheme to defraud that defendant Destasio would order Sprint Nextel phones at very steep and unauthorized discounts, usually for .99 per phone, which he billed

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to certain of his Sprint Nextel customers, who generally ignored or failed to notice the charges because they were negligible.

4. It was part of the scheme to defraud that defendant Destasio ordered "cold phones" - that is, phones to which phone numbers had yet to be assigned, many of which he had delivered to his home.

5. It was part of the scheme to defraud that defendant Destasio then sold the phones to third parties located throughout the United States utilizing his EBAY account called "Cellerific" for prices which ranged (depending on the particular phone) from approximately \$200 to approximately \$409.

6. Between approximately October 2007 through October 2009, the defendant fraudulently acquired from Sprint Nextel 575 phones which he then sold to third parties, occasioning losses to Sprint Nextel of \$144,657.28.

7. On or about August 10, 2009, in the State and District of Minnesota, the defendant,

CHRISTOPHER KEITH DESTASIO,

for the purpose of executing the scheme to defraud described in paragraphs 1 through 6 above, did knowingly cause to be transmitted by means of wire in interstate and foreign commerce certain signs and signals, namely, a wire transfer of \$409.00 from a person

purchasing a Sprint Blackberry cellular phone from Cellerific to Distasio's Paypal account to pay for the phone.

All in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1343.

FORFEITURE ALLEGATIONS

Count 1 of this Information is hereby realleged and incorporated as if fully set forth herein by reference, for the purpose of alleging forfeitures pursuant to Title 18, United States Code, Sections 981(a)(1)(C), and Title 28, United States Code, Section 2461(c).

As the result of the offenses alleged in Count 1 of this Information, pursuant to Title 18, United States Code, Section 981(a)(1)(C) in conjunction with Title 28, United States Code, Section 2461(c), the defendant shall forfeit to the United States any property constituting, or derived from, proceeds traceable to such violations, including, without limitation, the proceeds from the recent sale of the defendant's home in Minneapolis.

If any of the above-described forfeitable property is unavailable for forfeiture, the United States intends to seek the forfeiture of substitute property as provided for in Title 21, United States Code, Section 853(p), as incorporated by Title 28, United States Code, Section 2461(c).

All in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 981(a)(1)(C), and Title 28, United States Code, Section 2461.

Dated: August 2, 2010

B. TODD JONES
United States Attorney

David J. MacLaughlin

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Attorney I.D. No. 211849